

- SORREL - WEED - HOUSE -

GA-2140
HABS NO 14-140

- SAVANNAH - GEORGIA -

HABS
GA.

CHATHAM Co.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Georgia

Historic American Building Survey
Harold Bush-Brown, District Officer
Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta, Ga.

SORREL-WEED HOUSE

Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia
Madison Square & Bull St.

Owner: Mrs. Jack Brantley, who occupies place.

Date of Erection: Approximately 1840 or earlier.

Architect & Builder:

Present Condition: Good. Columns on each side of the main story hall, since removed, supported plaster beam and formed a sort of front vestibule. Front door replaced. Otherwise almost entirely intact.

Number of Stories: Two story and ^{attic over} high basement. Faces South.

Materials of Construction: Foundation brick stuccoed. Wood floors.

Exterior walls brick stuccoed.

Other Existing Records: Records by P. Thornton Marye, District

Officer HABS 1934.

Additional Data: Double door entrance; one story porch with wood columns. Also one story wood porch on each side of house. Interesting cast and wrought iron work in balustrade on porch and balconies and garden fences. Present cast and wrought iron gate installed in garden wall by Mrs. Brantley. Built by Francis Sorrel, a Frenchman.

The East rear room with curved corners was planned to be used as dining room by Mr. Sorrel who had the dumb waiter installed from service room to kitchen under dining room. The basement which is two or three feet below outside ground level is paved with flagging in square blocks of stones about a foot and half square. The paving in the front basement room under the parlor is more elaborate

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Additional Data Con't.

using small corner pieces and alternating light and dark colors.

The center plaster circular medallions in the ceilings of the front and back sitting rooms on the West are very large and ornate. Double sliding solid mahogany paneled doors separate these rooms which have dark mantels, elaborate plaster cornice and original window head curtain shields.

A secondary stairs comes between parlor and dining room carrying all the way from basement to top of house.

Information furnished by Miss Edith D. Johnston, Savannah, Ga.:

"The present wrought iron gate was placed in the Bull Street wall by Mrs. Brantley who bought the house a few years ago. She had the wall opened for the purpose at a different place from the former opening, which has been filled in with brick.

In Georgia Historical Quarterly Vol. I, page 36, (1917), the following quotation by W.W. Marshall in an article entitled, "The Late Dr. Francis Sorrel." "Returning to America he (Dr. Sorrel), located in Savannah for the purpose of practicing his profession, and occupied as his office, rooms in the basement of the old Sorrel (now Weed) Mansion on the corner of Bull & Harris Streets, the entrance to which was by a gateway in the brick wall on Bull Street, which encloses the premises, since bricked up, but the outlines of which are still discernable."

Rev. Dec. 7 '36 T.W.

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Dr. Sorrel was the son of Mr. Francie Sorrel, a descendant of an old French Family. He was the elder brother of Gen. G. Moxley Sorrel, the Confederate officer (Ref. Ibid).

Mrs. Brantley's son, Jack Brentley, Jr., states house was built in the thirties (1833 as he remembers it from an old letter he has read, but this date has been questioned).

Harold Bush-Brown
HAROLD BUSH-BROWN
DISTRICT OFFICER-HABS